

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 25. (cancelled)

26. (original) A wall framing assembly, comprising:

a first track;

a second track substantially aligned and spatially disposed from the first track;

a plurality of studs interposed between the tracks, each stud comprising a

longitudinal extending medial web portion and one or more longitudinal

extending stiffening flanges between a first end and a second end of the stud;

a clip operatively connecting a selected stud's first end to the first track in a slip joint, the clip comprising:

a base fixed to the first track; and

a guide depending from the base comprising opposing arms defining a

channel receivingly engaging the selected stud's web in a characteristic

operative sliding relationship; and

a fastener connecting the selected stud's second end to the second track.

27. (previously presented) The wall assembly of claim 26 wherein the base has a planar first surface and an opposing second surface, and wherein the guide opposing arms comprise a first arm extending along a longitudinal axis substantially transverse to the

base from a proximal end adjacent the second surface, and a second arm extending away from the base oriented substantially in the same direction as the first arm.

28. (original) The wall assembly of claim 26 wherein the arms are selectively spatially disposed to operatively engage the second member web with a selected frictional resistance to the operative sliding engagement.

29. (original) The wall assembly of claim 26 wherein the guide defines a slotted opening in at least one of the arms extending substantially along a longitudinal axis of the stud.

30. (original) The wall assembly of claim 26 wherein both of the arms are engageable against the web.

31. (original) A wall framing assembly, comprising:

a first track;

a second track substantially aligned and spatially disposed from the first track;

a plurality of studs interposed between the tracks, each stud comprising a

longitudinal extending medial web portion and one or more longitudinal

extending stiffening flanges between a first end and a second end of the stud;

a clip operatively connecting a selected stud's first end to the first track in a slip

joint, the clip comprising:

a base fixed to the first track; and

a guide depending from the base comprising opposing arms, at least one of the

arms compressingly engaging the selected stud's web in a characteristic operative sliding relationship; and
a fastener connecting the selected stud's second end to the second track.

32. (previously presented) The wall assembly of claim 31 wherein the base has a planar first surface and an opposing second surface, and wherein the guide opposing arms comprise a first arm extending along a longitudinal axis substantially transverse to the base from a proximal end adjacent the second surface, and a second arm extending away from the base oriented substantially in the same direction as the first arm.

33. (original) The wall assembly of claim 31 wherein the guide defines a slotted opening in at least one of the arms extending substantially along a longitudinal axis of the stud.

34. (original) The wall assembly of claim 31 wherein both of the arms compressingly engage against the web.

35. (original) A method of framing a wall structure, comprising:
providing a first track;
providing a second track substantially aligned and spatially disposed from the first track;
providing a plurality of studs interposed between the tracks, each stud characterized by a longitudinal extending medial web portion and one or more longitudinal extending stiffening flanges between ends of the stud;

providing a clip for operatively connecting a selected stud's first end to the first track in a slip joint, the clip comprising:
a base fixable to the first track; and
a guide depending from the base comprising opposing arms defining a channel receivingly engageable with the selected stud's web in a characteristic operative sliding relationship;
engaging the selected stud's first end with the clip;
connecting the clip to the first track with a fastener; and
connecting the selected stud's second end to the second track with a fastener.

36. (original) A method of framing a wall structure, comprising:

providing a first track;
providing a second track substantially aligned and spatially disposed from the first track;
providing a plurality of studs interposed between the tracks, each stud characterized by a longitudinal extending medial web portion and one or more longitudinal extending stiffening flanges between ends of the stud;
providing a clip for operatively connecting a selected stud's first end to the first track in a slip joint, the clip comprising:
a base fixable to the first track; and
a guide depending from the base comprising opposing arms, at least one of the arms compressingly engageable with the selected stud's web in a characteristic operative sliding relationship;
engaging the selected stud's first end with the clip;

connecting the clip to the first track with a fastener; and

connecting the selected stud's second end to the second track with a fastener.

37. (previously presented) A deflection clip for joining a first longitudinal member transversely to a second longitudinal member in a slip joint for operatively permitting displacement between the joined members along the operative disposition of the second member longitudinal axis, the first member comprising a planar medial web adjacent one or more transverse flanges and the second member comprising a medial web and one or more outer flanges, the clip comprising:

- a base comprising a first surface and an opposing second surface, the first surface consisting of a planar surface adapted for parallel mating engagement with the first member web, the base operably fixable to the first member web to maintain the parallel mating engagement relationship of the base first surface and the first member web; and

- a guide depending from the base operatively slidably constraining the second member web during displacement between the joined members along the operative disposition of the second member longitudinal axis, the guide comprising:

- a first arm extending substantially transverse to the base from a proximal end adjacent the base second surface and comprising a bearing surface adapted to slidably engage the second member during the displacement between the members; and

- a second arm extending from the base oriented substantially in the same direction as the first arm, the second arm comprising a bearing surface adapted to slidably engage the second member during the displacement between the

members, the arms being noncoplanar and spaced apart in a direction transverse to the operative disposition of the second member longitudinal axis and with a selected spacing in relation to the characteristic arrangement of the second member to adaptively permit freedom of movement between the guide and the second member during the displacement between the members along the operative disposition of the second member longitudinal axis.

38. (previously presented) A deflection clip for joining a first member and a second member in a slip joint, the clip comprising:

- a planar base plate fixable to the first member; and

- a guide depending from the base plate comprising:

- a first arm extending along a longitudinal axis substantially transverse to the base plate; and

- a second arm extending from the base plate oriented substantially in the same direction as the first arm defining a channel interposed laterally between the arms, the arms being noncoplanar and spaced apart with a selected spacing in relation to the second member to adaptively engage the second member permitting freedom of movement between the guide and the second member during displacement between the members.

39. (previously presented) The clip of claim 38 wherein the arms are selectively spatially disposed to adaptively engage the second member with a selected frictional resistance to the displacement.

40. (previously presented) The clip of claim 38 wherein the guide defines an opening in at least one of the arms adapted for admitting a retainer limiting displacement of the guide relative to the second member when an edge of the opening pressingly engages against the retainer.

41. (previously presented) The clip of claim 40 wherein the opening comprises a slotted opening adapted to extend substantially along a longitudinal axis of the second member.

42. (previously presented) The clip of claim 38 wherein the first member comprises a medial web and opposing flanges defining a cavity, wherein the base plate is adapted to substantially laterally span the cavity.

43. (previously presented) The clip of claim 38 comprising a unitary construction.

44. (previously presented) The clip of claim 38 wherein the base plate is fixable to the first member by a fastener imparting an attachment force acting substantially parallel with the arms.

45. (previously presented) The clip of claim 40 wherein the guide further comprises an indicia adaptively indicating a nominal position of the retainer.